


State of North Carolina Office of Information Technology Services

Michael F. Easley, Governor

George Bakolia, State Chief Information Officer

Memorandum

To: Agency CIOs and Agency BCP Representatives

From: Ann Garrett, State Chief Information Security Officer 

Subject: Business Continuity Planning Tools Update - Strohl Systems Product Contract

Date: December 20, 2007

The Enterprise Security and Risk Management Office (ESRMO) is pleased to inform you that negotiations with Strohl Systems are complete and we have finalized a three-year contract. The new agreement will cover the LDRPS 10 software upgrade, associated maintenance fees, LDRPS 10 training and maintenance fees for the existing Business Impact Analysis (BIA) tool. These web-enabled tools now give the State the capability to standardize the look and feel of its agencies' Business Continuity (BC) plans, a function we cannot utilize today with the current client-server version.

All executive branch agencies will be assigned a unique license for LDRPS 10, enabling them to take advantage of the full functionality of the product. For this reason the usage of the Strohl tools is mandated for all executive branch agencies. This approach will provide better integration and capability to roll up agency IT BC plans with the ITS plan, allowing the State to optimize use of its two data centers.

Agency Surveys

During the month of October, the ESRMO surveyed executive branch agencies about their use of LDRPS 9.1 (client-server). Most of the agencies indicated that they are using or have used LDRPS 9.1 in some capacity to develop and maintain their business continuity plans. Those agencies not using it attribute the lack of use directly to the product and/or its features (i.e., cumbersome, lack of flexibility and too complex). The upgraded version (LDRPS 10) addresses several of those issues. Overwhelmingly, twenty-one (91%) of the respondents indicated that they plan to use LDRPS 10 (web-enabled) when it is made available to them. The results of this survey helped us determine the type and quantity of licenses to purchase for the LDRPS 10 upgrade. Visit the URL below to read about the features in LDRPS 10.

<http://www.strohlsystems.com/Software/LDRPS/Features.asp>

ITS Hosting Services

The usage survey completed in October also revealed that more than half of the respondents favor ITS hosting the software and their respective agency having access to the software via a secure channel (VPN,

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SSL etc). The consolidated agencies will be required to use the ITS hosting service so the product's roll up feature can be utilized; however, other agencies interested in this service are asked to contact their ITS Business Account Managers directly for the prices associated with this service.

Implementation Timeline

With the completion of the official contract behind us, several tasks will follow to ensure a successful upgrade. The approximate timeframes in which these tasks will occur are identified in the table below.

Description of Work Tasks	Estimated		Actual	Overall Status
	Start Date	Completion Date	Completion Date	
• Distribute LDRPS 10	01/01/2008	01/31/2008	TBD	
• Install product and conduct agency training*	01/01/2008	04/15/2008	TBD	In Progress
• Session 1 – February 25-28, 2008				
• Session 2 – April 8-11, 2008				
• Migrate data from LDRPS 9.1 to LDRPS 10	03/31/2008	06/30/2008	TBD	
• Collect BCP plans (either LDRPS 9.1 or 10 format)	06/01/2008	06/30/2008	TBD	
• Complete Business Impact Analysis	07/01/2008	10/31/2008	TBD	
• Phase out LDRPS 9.1	07/01/2008	12/31/2008	TBD	

***Registration details will be sent directly to the BCP Representatives.**

Please contact Janice Hunter or Debora Antley if you would like additional details about the Strohl tools. Janice can be reached at Janice.g.hunter@its.nc.gov or 919-754-6654. Debora can be reached at debora.antley@its.nc.gov or 919-754-6652.

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